Gauge conversion of Silchar-Lumding rail line

4547. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that no work has been started on Silchar-Lumding broad gauge line for which foundation has been laid;

(b) if so, by when the work on this project will start and when will it be completed; and

(c) whether Government propose to sanction more funds for the implementation of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The required clearances have been received. Final Location survey and preparation of detailed estimate are being taken up. The work would be taken up as soon all preliminary arrangement are completed. Completion of the work depends upon availability of resources.

(c) Rs. 34 crs. have been provided in 1997-98 budget for this project which are quite adequate.

Reservation quota in various Trains at Bhopal Station

4548. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quota of berths available daily on various trains at Bhopal railway station to various directions;

(b) whether there is public demand for increasing this quota; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) A total reservation quota of 5794 berths/seats is available at Bhopal for booking in trains towards various directions.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The reservation quotas are reviewed from time to time and additional quotas are provided where justified and feasible. Details of the additional quotas provided at Bhopal after October, 1996 are given in the statement attached

Statement

Statement referred to in reply to Part (c) of Unstarred question No. 45-18 asked by Shri Suresh Pachouri to be answered in Rajya Sabha on 16.5.97 regarding Reservation quota in various trains at Bhopal Station.

The additional/fresh reservation quotas allotted at Bhopal station after October, 1996 is as under:

S.No.	Train No.	Class	Quota	W.E.F.
1.	2723 A.P. Express	AC 3-Ticr	2	14.11.96
2.	1037 Punjab Mail	AC 2-Tier	2	6.11.96
		AC 3-Tier	4	
3.	5092 Gorakhpur-Bangalore Express	AC 2-Tier	7	7.10.96
		Sleeper	24	
4.	8544. Samta Express	AC 2-Tier	3	5.11.96
5,	1038 Punjab Mail	AC 2-Tier	2	20.01.97
		AC 3-Tier	12	
6.	2622 T.N. Express	Sleeper	2	11.3.97
7.	4313 Dadar-Bareilly Express	First	6	31.3.97

S.No.	Train No.	Class	Quota	W.E.F.
8.	9768 Jaipur-Madras Express	AC 2-Tier	2	10.6.97
		Sleeper	20	
9.	2634 Rajdhani Express	IAC	2	11.4.97
10.	1265 Bhopal-Rewa Express	AC 2-Tier	42	14.9.96
	(via Bina/Katni)	Sleeper	328	
11.	1267 Bhopal-Rewa Express	AC 2-Tier	42	15.9.96
		Sleeper	338	
12.	9767 Madras-Jaipur Express	AC 2-Tier	2	4.10.96
		Sleeper	8	
13.	9305 Kshipra Express	AC 2-Tier	6	3.10.96
14.	1061 Lashkar Express	AC 2-Tier	8 .	6.10.%
		Sleeper	16	
15.	1062 Lashkar Express	AC 2-Tier	8	7.10.96
16.	1457 Dadar-Amritsar Express	sleeper	10	16.1.97

Allotment of Bookstalls to Unemployed Graduates at Railway Stations

4549. SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 4657 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd May, 1995, and state:

(a) whether the Railways have called for applications for allotment of bookstalls on Platform No. 18-19 at Delhi Junction which were surrendered by M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co. in lieu of newly constructed passenger platform towards Kashmere Gate Side (Second Entry), Delhi Junction;

(b) if not, the detailed reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Railway have recently allotted two Book Counters/italls to M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co. on newly constructed platforms towards Kashmere Gate side at Delhi Junction as per their existing Bookstall agreement;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the fate of the applications of unemployed graduates for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (e) No, Sir. The existing counter tables of M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co. have been shifted towards second entry Kashmere Gate side at Delhi Railway Station in order to reduce congestion on platform Nos. 18 & 19. There is no proposal for fresh allotment of bookstall on platform Nos. 18 & 19.

Construction of fly-over near Bilaspur Railway station

4550. SHRI LAKKHIRAM AGARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to build a fly-over near Bilaspur Railway Station in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Work was approved in 1996-97. The work will be started after completing necessary formalities by State Government.

Recruitment to Apprentices in Railways

4551. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways arc recruiting apprentices as per the Apprentices Act, 1961;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these